

Released:

11/13/2006

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FLORIDA

WEATHER: Dry, warm weather during the first half of October allowed peanut, cotton and sugarcane harvesting to progress at a normal pace. Growers welcomed the scattered storms crossing the State during the last half of the month, which increased soil moisture supplies. However, some areas experienced slight delays in harvesting due to the rains. Cooler temperatures arrived about mid-October. Clear conditions during early November accelerated harvesting with temperatures remaining cool.

COTTON: As of November 1, yield was set at 646 pounds per acre, 69 pounds or 12 percent above last month's estimate of 577 pounds per acre, but 116 pounds or 15 percent below last year's average of 762 pounds per acre. Growers expected to gin 140,000 (480-pound) bales. This was an increase of 15,000 bales or 12 percent above the October 1 forecast, but was down 5,000 bales or nearly 4 percent from last year. Acreage to be picked totaled 104,000 acres, equal to the earlier forecast. Last year growers picked 85,000 acres. Dry conditions and cool temperatures during the first half of October affected the yield and grade of cotton in some areas. Scattered rain, falling over the Panhandle and in some northern Peninsula areas during the last half of the month, interrupted some picking. However, most activity was on schedule by the end of the month. Growers reported yields averaging higher than expected. Strong winds accompanying some storms blew some cotton to the ground. Harvest progress was over 65 to 70 percent finished in Santa Rosa County by November 1. Hardlock bolls were widespread in some Panhandle localities.

PEANUTS: Yield, forecast at 2,400 pounds per acre, dropped 100 pounds per acre or 4 percent from the previous month's forecast. Producers reported slightly lower yields from the late plantings due to continued drought. As of November 1, growers expected production to total 288 million pounds, down 12 million pounds or 4 percent from the October 1 estimate and down 122.4 million pounds from last year's 410.4 million pounds produced. Producers expected to dig 120,000 acres, down 32,000 acres or 21 percent from last year's record high acreage of 152,000 acres harvested. Dry, hard soils delayed digging during the first half of October with progress only about 80 percent finished by November 1, versus 94 percent last year and the 5-year average of 95 percent completed. The mostly dry weather during the month slowed the maturation of late plantings. Scattered storms during the last half of the month allowed digging to gain momentum by loosening soils; however, the rainfall caused slight delays in combining as growers waited for the unearthed vines and nuts to dry.

SUGARCANE: The November 1 yield forecast of 34.8 tons per acre remained unchanged from the October 1 estimate. Last year, yield averaged 31.8 tons per acre. Production was set at 14,094,000 tons, up nearly 11 percent from the 12,746,000 tons produced last year. Growers expected to cut 405,000 acres, up 4,000 acres or nearly 1 percent from last year. Harvest started during the first week of October with the last mill opening by early November. In Palm Beach County, wetland sugarcane growth was reported as slightly below average. In Hendry County, sandland sugarcane harvest started during the first two weeks of October. Predominantly dry weather allowed the harvest to progress without any major delays. Producers reported no immediate pest pressures during the initial phase of the harvest. Early findings indicated the initial percent of sugar in the cane to be excellent.

UNITED STATES

PEANUTS: Production is forecast at 3.37 billion pounds, down 31 percent from last year's crop but up 3 percent from last month. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.21 million acres, unchanged from October but down 26 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 2,780 pounds per acre, up 87 pounds from last month but down 209 pounds from 2005. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) is expected to total 2.36 billion pounds, up 4 percent from October but down 30 percent from last year's level. Expected acreage for harvest, at 924,000, is unchanged from October but down 23 percent from 2005. Yields in the region are expected to average 2,550 pounds per acre, 102 pounds above last month but 258 pounds below 2005. As of October 29, peanut harvest was 49 percent complete in Alabama, and 67 percent complete in Georgia. Alabama lagged behind its 5-year average by 37 percentage points, while Georgia lagged the 5-year averages by 18 percentage points. Peanut harvest in South Carolina, at 80 percent complete, was ahead of its 5-year average by 2 percentage points.

COTTON: Upland cotton harvested area, at 12.5 million acres, is unchanged from last month but down 8 percent from last year. American-Pima harvested acres are unchanged from last month but up 21 percent from last year. Upland cotton harvest was in full swing throughout the Southeast region. During the first part of October, ideal weather conditions allowed harvest to progress rapidly. However, lingering showers during the middle and later part of the month delayed harvest. Even with the harvest delays, Alabama and Georgia are ahead of their 5-year average while Virginia is slightly behind normal. Objective yield measurements show Georgia's indicated bolls per acre to be second highest in the last ten years. Boll weights in North Carolina rank as the second heaviest in the last five years.



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SUGARCANE: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2006 is forecast at 29.8 million tons, 3 percent above the October forecast and 12 percent above 2005. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 908,800 acres for sugar and seed during the 2006 crop year, unchanged from October but down 1 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 32.8 tons per acre, 0.9 ton above the previous forecast and 4.0 tons above the 2005 yield. In Louisiana, the acreage forecast is unchanged, but yield is forecast 2.0 tons higher than the previous month due to beneficial rainfall during October.

CORN: Production is forecast at 10.7 billion bushels, down 1 percent from October and 3 percent lower than 2005. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 151.2 bushels per acre, down 2.3 bushels from October but 3.3 bushels higher than last year. If realized, the yield would be the second largest on record, behind 2004. Yield forecasts are lower than last month across much of the western and central Corn Belt and Atlantic Coast States as producers reported that actual harvest yields were not as good as expected earlier due to lower grain weight per ear. Stalk quality and lodging problems were also reported in some areas. Producers in the northern Great Plains, Delta States, and parts of the Southeast reported better than expected yields. Compared with last year, yields are higher in all Corn Belt States, except Iowa and Minnesota.

SOYBEANS: Production is forecast at 3.20 billion bushels, up slightly from October and 5 percent above 2005. If realized, this would be the largest U.S. soybean crop on record. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 43.0 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushel from October and equal to last year's record high yield. Producers in the northern Great Lakes States, Delaware, New York, North Carolina, and the Dakotas are realizing higher yields than expected last month, while yield prospects decreased slightly as harvest progressed in Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, and Pennsylvania. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 74.5 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 5 percent from 2005.

CROP PRODUCTION: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of November 1, 2006 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2005	For harvest 2006	2005	Indicated 2006		2005	Indicated 2006
	Thousands		Units			Thousands	
FLORIDA							
Cotton, Upland	85	104	762	646	^{1/}	135	140
Peanuts ^{2/}	152	120	2,700	2,400	Lbs.	410,400	288,000
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{3/}	5.8	5.5	240	250	Cwt	1,382	1,375
Spring ^{3/}	23.2	23.7	281	294	Cwt	6,527	6,962
Sugarcane	401	405	31.8	34.8	Ton	12,746	14,094
Tobacco, Type 14 ^{3/}	2.5	1.1	2,200	2,400	Lbs.	5,500	2,640
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	75,107	71,047	147.9	151.2	Bu.	11,112,072	10,744,806
Cotton, all ^{4/}	13,802.6	12,816.0	831	798	^{1/}	23,890.2	21,299.0
Hay, Alfalfa	22,389	22,407	3.38	3.33	Ton	75,771	74,527
Hay, All Other	39,260	40,290	1.91	1.80	Ton	74,819	72,511
Peanuts for nuts ^{2/}	1,629	1,213	2,989	2,780	Lbs.	4,869,860	3,372,150
Potatoes							
Winter ^{3/}	19.8	17.5	247	257	Cwt	4,892	4,495
Spring ^{3/}	66.7	69.7	281	296	Cwt	18,724	20,646
Summer ^{3/}	51.4	54.8	342	342	Cwt	17,567	18,731
Fall	949.0	976.9	403	400	Cwt	382,743	390,917
Rice	3,364	2,823	6,636	6,847	^{5/}	223,235	193,292
Sorghum for grain	5,736	5,319	68.7	54.2	Bu.	393,893	288,470
Soybeans for beans	71,251	74,505	43.0	43.0	Bu.	3,063,237	3,203,908
Sugarbeets	1,242.9	1,305.9	22.2	25.8	Ton	27,537	33,627
Sugarcane for sugar and seed	922.6	908.8	28.8	32.8	Ton	26,604	29,845
Tobacco, All	298.1	334.3	2,171	2,194	Lbs.	647,278	733,608
Wheat, all	50,119	46,810	42.0	38.7	Bu.	2,104,690	1,812,036
Winter	33,794	31,117	44.4	41.7	Bu.	1,499,129	1,298,081
Durum	2,716	1,815	37.2	29.5	Bu.	101,105	53,475
Other spring	13,609	13,878	37.1	33.2	Bu.	504,456	460,480

^{1/} Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.
^{2/} 2006 yield and production revised.
^{3/} Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.
^{4/} Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton.
^{5/} Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. Includes sweet rice production.